

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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(54) A DISPENSER FOR TISSUES

(71) We, HOGLA LIMITED, an Israel company, of 15 Carlebachstreet, Tel-Aviv, Israel do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

The present invention relates to a hermetically sealed package of paper towels, paper handkerchiefs or facial tissues (hereinafter and in the appended claims collectively referred to as tissues).

The use of such tissues is widespread. Paper towels are used in particular in public places, e.g. toilets, where people wash. The use of cloth towels in such places is either unhygienic where large towels are used or very expensive where small towels are supplied. Facial tissues are used, for example, at home by women for make-up.

It is readily understood that it is important that said tissues should be packed and transported to the place of use in a hygienic manner in a package which should be light, easy to open, easy to manufacture and after having been opened ensure that only one tissue is removed at a time and should even after being opened be as dirt-proof as possible.

Most of the commercially available dispenser packages do not meet the above requirements. They are mostly too heavy, as they are made completely from cardboard and are quite expensive and complicated to manufacture. Some of these known dispensers do not ensure that only one tissue is removed at a time but on the contrary many of them permit several tissues to be removed at a time. Moreover, after most of these known dispensers have been opened dirt has easy access to the tissues.

It is thus the object of the present invention to provide a dispenser package of tissues which meets the above requirements.

According to the invention there is provided an hermetically sealed package of tissues, comprising a stack of tissues, an insert of stiff material lying on top of said

stack having substantially the same dimensions as the top of the stack and having an opening therein and an envelope of a sheet material more flexible than that of the insert closing the stack and insert and hermetically sealed, the top of said envelope being adapted to be opened along a line extending across the opening in the insert.

The envelope is preferably of a thermoplastics material which is hermetically sealed under heat and pressure. It may be transparent.

The envelope is preferably adapted to be opened by the provision of a line of weakness which extends across the centre of the opening in the insert. The line is preferably perpendicular to the folding lines of the tissues in the envelope.

The package according to the present invention may be utilised both for C-fold and for inter-fold tissues.

The size of the new package is not a crucial feature of the present invention. Said package may be adapted to the size of any tissue. The length and width thereof is advantageously substantially the length and width of the folded tissues to be packed therein, whereas the height thereof is preferably substantially the height of the stack of tissues to be packaged.

As suitable thermosealing plastics material for the envelope there may for example be mentioned polyethylene, polypropylene, and polystyrene.

It is of no significance for the present invention in which manner the envelope is closed as long as a hermetic seal is obtained. Also the envelope should not be unintentionally self-openable prior to use. The envelope may be closed by suitable clips, or by a weld seam at either end or side or in the bottom or top of the envelope.

The insert may be made of any suitable rigid material such as metal, or certain plastic materials. In a preferred embodiment said insert is made of cardboard.

The opening in the insert may have any suitable shape, e.g. it may be elliptical or

rectangular. It should be so dimensioned that the tissues may be removed through it without any difficulty.

Said opening is advantageously situated near to one end of the insert so that one end of the top-most tissue is easily disengaged, after which its other end will slip out. If desired the insert may be provided with two openings and the envelope with two appropriate lines of weakness.

It is readily understood that a second insert may be positioned in the envelope at the bottom of the stack. Naturally such second insert need have no opening.

It is easily understood that the package according to the present invention meets the above requirements. The tissues are hygienically and hermetically packed therein, the package is light and easy to manufacture, it can be opened easily and each tissue can be removed separately. Moreover, even after the seal of the envelope has been broken the arrangement is such that there is only a short, narrow aperture through which dirt will have access. The new package is very flexible, it will lie on any surface and resists slip.

A preferred embodiment of the invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawing, which shows a perspective view of a dispenser package according to the present invention.

The illustrated dispenser package comprises an envelope 1 made of a polyethylene film which is hermetically closed at one end 2. A cardboard insert 3, less flexible than the envelope is provided with an opening 4. The envelope 1 is provided with a line 5 of indentations extending across the middle of the opening 4. Tissues 6 are C-folded and the free ends of said tissue 6 extend along lines 7 generally perpendicular to the line of weakness 5.

A stack of tissues 6 is placed inside the envelope 1 with the insert 3 on top of the stack and the envelope is sealed. When the tissues are to be removed the envelope 1 is bent until it breaks along the line of weakness 5 after which the topmost tissue 6 can be removed through the opening 4 in the insert and the aperture formed in the envelope 1.

Instead of a line 5 of indentations an equivalent opening means may be provided such as a continuous indentation forming a line of weakness or a pull strip which, by

being ripped off, will open the envelope along the line 5.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. An hermetically sealed package of tissues, comprising a stack of tissues, an insert of stiff material lying on top of said stack having substantially the same dimensions as the top of the stack and having an opening therein and an envelope of a sheet material more flexible than that of the insert enclosing the stack and insert and hermetically sealed, the top of said envelope being adapted to be opened along a line extending across the opening in the insert. 60

2. A package as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the envelope is of a thermoplastics material and is hermetically sealed by means of heat and pressure. 70

3. A package as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the envelope is of polyethylene or polypropylene. 75

4. A package as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the envelope is transparent. 80

5. A package as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the insert is of cardboard. 85

6. A package as claimed in any preceding claim wherein said opening in the insert is formed near to one end thereof. 90

7. A package as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the envelope is adapted to be opened by means of a line of weakness or a pull strip in the top of the envelope which extends centrally across the opening in the insert. 95

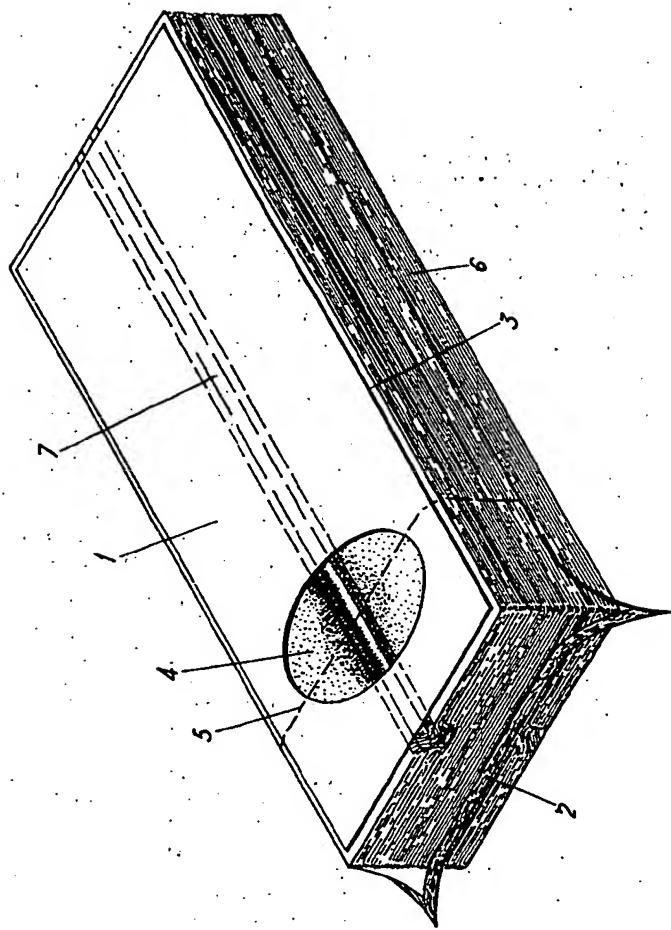
8. A package as claimed in Claim 7 wherein said line of weakness or pull strip is generally perpendicular to the fold lines of the tissues. 95

9. A package as claimed in Claim 7 or Claim 8 wherein the line of weakness is provided by a line of indentations or a continuous indentation in the material of the envelope. 100

10. An hermetically sealed package of tissues substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawing.

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